

Parks and Recreation Department STRATEGIC PARK PLAN 2013 – 2017

Strategic Park Plan Outline

- I. Introduction
- **II. Goals and Objectives**
- **III. Park Classifications**
- **IV. Facility Users**
- **V. Facility Fees Analysis**
- **VI. 5-Year Strategic Park Plan**
 - ➤ Pleasant View Park
 - ➤ Potteiger Park
 - ➤ Hidden Creek Park
 - > Paul Walters Memorial Park
 - ➤ Stony Ridge Park
 - ➤ Willow Mill Park



I. Introduction

The Strategic Park Plan identifies actions, activities, and planning efforts that are needed for continued success in operations and management of park facilities and natural resource areas. It serves as a framework for decision making over a 5-year period. The assessment includes analyzing opportunities and challenges by setting goals and objectives that align with the mission and vision of Silver Spring Township. It serves to protect the natural environment and provide opportunities for outdoor experiences and activities. The Planning Team includes the Director and Assistant Director for the Parks and Recreation Department and they work in cooperation with the Public Works Department Director. This plan is reviewed by the Recreation Advisory Council every 6 months. Final approval of this plan is determined by the Board of Supervisors.

II. Goals and Objectives

Goal: To provide a balance of programs and facilities that have a positive impact on the local community, while meeting the outdoor recreation needs of people of all abilities.

Objectives

- Review the classifications for each park as they develop and/or change over time.
- Periodically assess park dedication fees for new housing units, rental fees and potentially impose commercial rec fees
- Offer naming/branding rights for park amenities to help fund future development (memorialize/recognize)
- Generate revenue for land acquisition and development projects through business and private donations or grants
- Create a network of trails within each park
- Review maintenance schedules and projects on a weekly basis (Public Works & Parks and Rec)
- Inventory and inspect facilities and equipment each year (Public Works)
- Review Park Ordinance and Park Rules & Regulations, as needed (Parks and Rec)

Park Classifications III. **Neighborhood Park** Pleasant View Park Potteiger Park **Community Park** Hidden Creek Park Paul Walters Memorial Park Willow Mill Park **Sports Complex** Stony Ridge Park **Natural Resource Areas** Bunker Hills (11 Creek Avenue) Vo-Tech Open Space (Vo-Tech Drive) White Birch (38 Pine Hill Avenue) **Special Use Facility – NONE Greenways and Trails – NONE** School/Community Park - NONE Paul Walters Memorial Park (undeveloped 33 acres) Photo taken in 2012

IV. Facility Users

YOUTH SPORT LEAGUES

Silver Spring Youth Baseball Assoc. (SSYBA) Cumberland Valley Girls Softball (CVSoftball)

Cumberland Valley Midget Football Assoc. (CVMFA)

Hampden, Middlesex, Monroe, Silver Spring Youth Soccer (HMMS)

Cumberland Valley Youth Lacrosse (CVLX) Capital Area Cricket League ~ *new league*

ADULT SPORT LEAGUES

Kickball 365 (Adults 30+) West Shore Co-Rec Softball

West Shore Adult Lacrosse

ATHLETIC TOURNAMENTS

Dillsburg Youth Soccer Tournament Triple Crown Baseball Tournament HMMS Memorial Day Tournament Kickball 365 Regional Tournament HMMS 3 on 3 Tournament CV Girls Softball Firecracker Tournament

PAVILION RENTALS

~ facility users vary

Social Gatherings/Parties

Family/School Reunions

Weddings Memorial/Ceremony/Recognition



V. Facility Fees Analysis

Residential Fees: \$1,300 per lot

Commercial Fees: \$0

PWMP Farm Lease:\$3,080 (FY '12)Field/Pavilion Fees:\$13,005 (FY '12)Concession Fees:\$1,588 (FY '12)

Youth Sports Practice/Games FREE

Youth Tournament \$100 all day/field (RESIDENT)

\$125 all day/field (NON-RESIDENT)

Adult Tournament \$130 all day/field (RESIDENT)

\$155 all day/field (NON-RESIDENT)

Other \$10 hour/field (RESIDENT)

\$50 all day/field (RESIDENT) \$15 hour/field (NON-RESIDENT) \$60 all day/field (NON-RESIDENT)

Pavilion \$30 half day (RESIDENT)

\$45 half day (NON-RESIDENT)

\$50 all day (RESIDENT)

\$65 all day (NON-RESIDENT)

Courts \$50 half day/court

\$75 day/court

Special Events \$75/eight hours (RESIDENT)

\$100/eight hours (NON-RESIDENT)

ANNUAL REVIEW OF FEES

| ТҮРЕ | CHANGES | FEE |
|----------------------------------|---------|-----|
| Youth Practice | | |
| Youth Game | | |
| Youth Tourn (Resident) | | |
| Youth Tourn (Non-Resident) | | |
| Adult Tourn (Resident) | | |
| Adult Tourn (Non-Resident) | | |
| per hour/field (Resident) | | |
| per hour/field (Non-Resident) | | |
| all day/field (Resident) | | |
| all day/field (Non-Resident) | | |
| Pavilion half day (Resident) | | |
| Pavilion half day (Non-Resident) | | |
| Pavilion all day (Resident) | | |
| Pavilion all day (Non-Resident) | | |
| Court half day | | |
| Court all day | | |
| Special 8 hrs (Resident) | | |
| Special 8 hrs (Non-Resident) | | |

VI. 5-Year Strategic Park Plan

> **PLEASANT VIEW PARK** is a 12-acre neighborhood park that attracts visitors who are within walking/biking distance. This park offers a sense of community that contributes to the identity of the neighborhood and provides access to basic recreation opportunities. There is a high level of maintenance and reasonably high visitation.

Challenges: High level of maintenance is required for stone walking path after every heavy rain storm and limited activities for kids under 5 Opportunities: Develop a playground area for ages 2-5 and pave the walking path

Maintenance/Upkeep: Replacement of benches, fence, nets, plant new trees and enhance vegetation, enhanced park signs, etc.

Examine Use: High number of pavilion rentals, walkers, runners, tennis, and playground use

Funding: DCNR, DCED, Business and Private Sponsor

| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| Write a Grant for Playground Equipment | | | | х | |
| Develop Playground Area for Ages 2-5 | | | | | х |
| Pave Walking Path | | х | | | |
| Pathway from Pavilion to Playground (Scout) | X | | | | х |
| MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP | | | | | |
| Repair/replace benches, fence rails, nets | | | х | | |
| Plant new trees and enhance vegetation | | | | | х |
| Stain pavilion, benches, bulletin board | | х | | | |
| Enhance park signs | х | | | | |
| Paint exterior of restrooms | | | | | х |
| Replace bulletin board | | | | х | |

➤ **POTTEIGER PARK** is a 7-acre neighborhood park that attracts visitors who are within walking/biking distance. This park offers a sense of community that contributes to the identity of the neighborhood and provides access to basic recreation opportunities. There is a high level of maintenance associated <u>with a well-developed park</u>. <u>Potteiger Park is currently under-developed</u>.

Challenges: Underdeveloped, drains poorly

Opportunities: Playground for all ages, pavilion to rent, trails for walking, basketball court, and community garden

Maintenance/Upkeep: Rough grading, add topsoil and seed old t-ball field, replacement of wearing fence, plant new trees, enhance vegetation,

enhanced park signs.

Examine Use: Youth baseball teams

Funding: DCNR, Business and Private Sponsor

| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| Write a Grant Playground Equipment, Pavilion, Trail | х | | | | |
| Install Playground, Pavilion, Trail | | х | | | |
| Obtain Business Sponsor for Basketball Court | | | | х | |
| Install Basketball Courts | | х | | | х |
| Write a TreeVitalize Grant and Install Trees (Earth Day 2013, 2014) | х | х | | | |
| Research Community Garden for the site | х | | | | |
| MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP | | | | | |
| Add topsoil and seed old t-ball field | х | | | | |
| Enhance park signs | | х | | | |
| Add picnic tables and benches | | | х | | |
| Repair/Replace fence, benches, etc. | | | | | х |

PAUL WALTERS MEMORIAL PARK is a 14-acre community park, with an additional 33 acres undeveloped. It shall offer opportunities for all ages and interests, space for organized, large-scale, high participation events, fitness and wellness opportunities. It sits between Walden (formerly Tyson Commons/Summer Hill) and Rivendell Developments.

Challenges: Lack of amenities, lack of public sewer, limited accessibility, underdeveloped land

Opportunities: Phase development of new section (33 additional acres being farmed), cooperative efforts to enhance and develop new softball fields, additional amenities for passive recreation, playground equipment, trails, basketball and tennis courts, etc.

Maintenance/Upkeep: replacement of wearing fence, concession building needs

Examine Use: Girls softball leagues, walkers,

Funding: DCNR, Land Partnership, DCED, Business and Private Sponsor

| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| Lease 33 acres as Farmland | х | х | х | х | |
| Meet with Charter Homes to discuss | | | | | |
| Phase 1 | Х | | | | |
| Install Paved Trail around the Perimeter | | | | | |
| (Walden Development Funds) | | х | х | | |
| CV Sotfball Renovations and Additions | | | | | |
| (electric, parking lot, fence move, ball | | | | | |
| field on backside near triangle) | Х | | | | |
| Write a Grant (Phase 1) | | | | х | |
| Begin Phase 1 | | | | | х |
| MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP | | | | | |
| Add picnic tables and benches | | | х | | |
| Enhance park signs | | х | | | |
| Renovate small ball field behind | | x | | | |



Implementing this master plan will take time. As new opportunities, information and challenges appear, the proposed site plan may change. The process requires financial resources, direction from the Board of Supervisors, partnerships, public input and municipal planning initiatives.

➤ **HIDDEN CREEK PARK** is a 14-acre community park that offers opportunities for all ages and interests. The space is available for high participation events and offers fitness and wellness opportunities. It sits next to Millfording Heights Development and is along the Conodoguinet Creek.

Challenges: Limited use facility, lack of amenities, drains poorly on creek trail (turf trail), lack of public water/sewer/electric, limited accessibility, and repeat issues with tire marks in parking lots

Opportunities: Improving the riparian buffer, add picnic areas, extend trails and link to Hampden trail and shopping center, improve accessibility, incorporate sloped seating between the roadway and field

Maintenance/Upkeep: Improving slopes at parking lot entries, grading parking lot gravel, trimming trees and removal of washed-up items along creek

Examine Use: Adult and youth soccer teams, adult kickball teams, summer camps

Funding: PA Fish & Boat, Land Partnerships, Business and Private Sponsor

| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| Acquire Land to connect existing trail to Hampden | | х | | | |
| Extend turf trail to Hampden | | | х | | |
| Install Play Equipment or Pavilion | | х | | | |
| Write a Grant Boat Launch/Fishing Dock | | | | х | |
| Install Boat Launch | | | | | x |
| Install Fishing Dock | | | | | х |
| Pave Parking Lot Entrances | | | х | | |
| Write a TreeVitalize Grant and Install Trees (Lands Day 2014) (Earth Day 2015, 2016) | | х | х | х | |
| Clear an area for sloped seating on the hill | | х | | | |
| MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP | | | | | |
| Add picnic tables and benches | | х | | | |
| Add more topsoil along creek trail (Lands Day 2013) | x | | | | |
| Enhance park signs | x | | | | |

> **STONY RIDGE PARK** is a 103-acre sports complex that attracts visitors to a centralized location. Events held at this park stimulate economic growth. The park is not fully developed.

Challenges: Lack of city water, limited electric and facilities, not fully developed

Opportunities: Enhance existing fields, additional amenities for passive recreation, trails, basketball and tennis courts, amphitheater, etc.

Maintenance/Upkeep: replacement of wearing athletic facilities and general maintenance of concession building

Examine Use: Lacrosse, Football, Soccer, Baseball, Softball, Walkers/Runners

Funding: DCNR, Land Partnership, DCED, Business and Private Sponsor

| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| Install Park Entrance Sign | х | | | | |
| Install Kiosk (when park is fully developed) | | | | | х |
| Extend Walking Paths and Connect to PK Lots | x | х | | | |
| Install Sand Volleyball Court | х | | | | |
| Connect to City Water | | | х | | |
| Write a TreeVitalize Grant & Install Trees (Earth Day 2014, 2015, 2017) (Lands Day 2015) | | х | х | | х |
| Add Parking Lot Security Lighting (LED or Solar) | | | х | | |
| Wind Turbine | х | | | | |
| Write a Grant (tennis, basketball, walking paths) | | | | | х |
| Memorial Field Building – SSYBA Support | х | х | | | |
| MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP | | | | | |
| Add benches and tables | х | | | | |
| Enhance park signs | | | | х | |



Implementing this master plan will take time. As new opportunities, information and challenges appear, the proposed site plan may change. The process requires financial resources, direction from the Board of Supervisors, partnerships, public input and municipal planning initiatives.

> WILLOW MILL PARK is an 18-acre community park, which offers opportunities for all ages and interests. The space is available for high participation events and offers fitness and wellness opportunities. It sits along the Conodoguinet Creek.

Challenges: Lack of city water/sewer/lighting, poor drainage, frequent flooding, parking lot configuration, directing people to the boat launch (improper signs), deteriorating buildings (Huston Mill, Bumper Car Pav, Old Restrooms, Electric Building)

Opportunities: Enhance existing fields, additional amenities for passive recreation, trails, basketball and tennis courts, amphitheater, etc.

Maintenance/Upkeep: removal of stumps, repairing of fence, general upkeep for Memorial, storage facilities, pavilions, tree carvings

Examine Use: Walkers/Runners, Frisbee Golf, Dog Walking, Nature Observers, those renting the park for Weddings/Reunions, etc.

Funding: DCNR, Land Partnership, DCED, Fish & Boat, Business and Private Sponsor

| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| Correct Drainage Near Wetland | х | | | | |
| Renovate Paved RC Track Area | х | | | | |
| Clear an area along creek for viewing/fishing | х | | | | |
| Add vegetation along creek to help riparian buffer | | | х | | |
| Install Security Lights in Parking Lots | | х | | | |
| Add Electric to Bumper Car Pavilion | | | х | | |
| Phase II of Mill Project (Friends of WMP Supporting Funds) | | х | | | |
| Install Walkway to Memorial from Parking Lot | х | х | | | |
| Replace Park Entrance Sign to include Memorial/Boat Launch | | | | х | |
| Pave Handicap Spaces in Parking Lots (near Memorial) | | х | | | |
| Add Gravel Parking Lot to Memorial | х | | | | |
| Pave Small Area Next to Creek Side Pavilion | | х | | | |
| Remove Chain Fence, along WMP Road | | | х | | |
| Install Split Rail Fence and Shrubs along WMP Road | | | х | | |
| Install Trees | | | х | | х |

| MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Repair Wood on Bumper Car Pavilion | х | | |
| Enhance landscaping and garden area | х | х | |
| Remove invasive vegetation along creek | | х | |
| Add picnic tables and benches | | | х |
| Stain pavilion, wood carvings, gazebo | | | |